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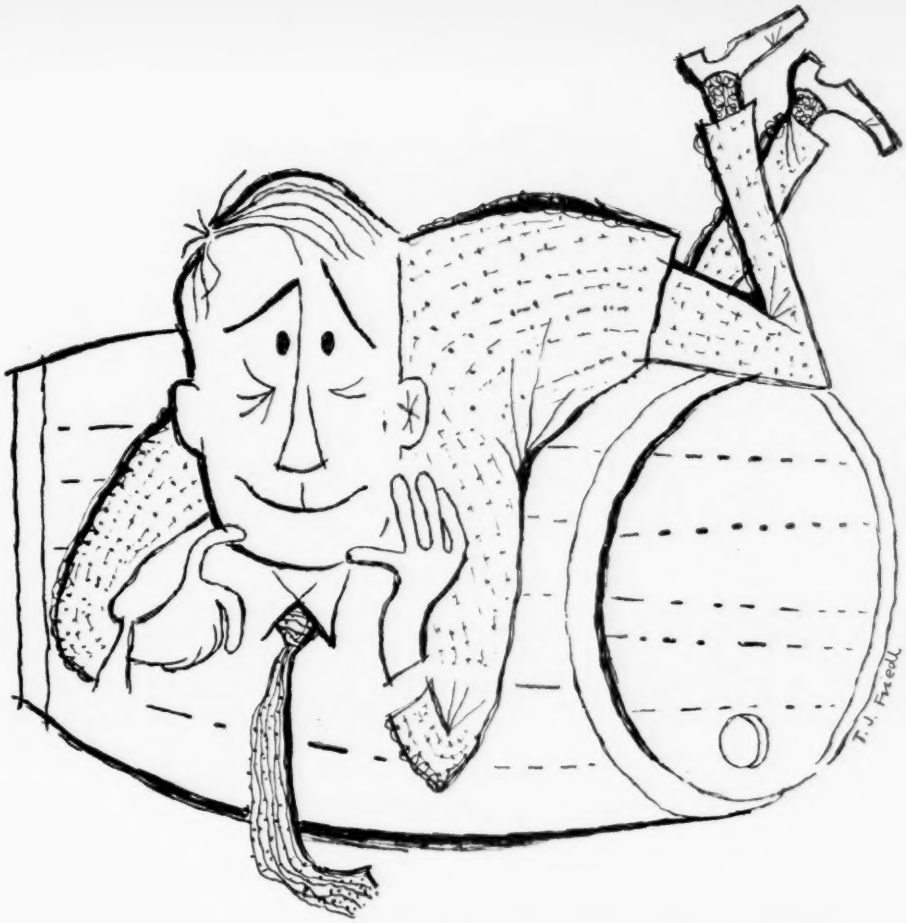

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ATOMIC ENERGY HAZARDS

THE POTENTIALLY CATASTROPHIC hazards of peacetime use of atomic energy were discounted by a leading atomic scientist in a recent address to the Insurance Brokers' Association of the State of New York. John R. Dunning, dean of engineering at Columbia University, told the brokers that the atomic energy field is becoming a major industry and that it is "one of the safest of all fields" with lesser perils than most normal industrial operations.

Representatives of the insurance industry have been in Washington studying the problems involved in providing insurance coverage for industrial uses of atomic energy. The group has received security clearance and is receiving the cooperation of the Atomic Energy Commission. When their study is complete it is expected the executives will prepare an unclassified report for the guidance of the industry.

W. C. EXPERIENCE RATING

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, the minimum premium to qualify a workmen's compensation risk for experience rating has been increased from $1,000 to $1,500 by the California Inspection Rating Bureau. The change was adopted because of the rise in average wages since 1921 when the plan was originated.

AFIA ELECTS OFFICERS

Frank A. Christensen, president of American Fore Insurance Group, has been elected president of the American Foreign Insurance Association succeeding William A. Hebert, president of the Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Company. Elected as first vice president was John A. North, president of The Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford, and as second vice president Bruno C. Vitt, president of The American Insurance Company.

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